

Compare & Contrast EXAMPLE

Lesson Plan

Aim: To support students in their understanding and use of compare & contrast language.

Time: 60 minutes plus homework task.

Lesson Suggestion

Lead in

- Distribute or project **worksheet 1**. Students ask & answer the **lead in** question.
- Feedback: whole class. Try & gauge who is already using the language for comparing & contrasting. Omit tasks accordingly.

Guided Practice

1. **Task 1:** students analyse the paragraph & complete the table with points of comparison.
2. Feedback: project or distribute **worksheet 1 task 1 ANSWERS**.
3. Students read the **language review:** compare & contrast rules.
4. **Task 2:** students complete table with the correct word forms.
5. Feedback: project or distribute **worksheet 1 task 2 ANSWERS**.
6. Students read the language review: compare & contrast structure.
7. **Task 3:** students rewrite sentences using the phrases in brackets.
8. Feedback: project or distribute **worksheet 1 task 3 ANSWERS**.
9. **Task 4:** students complete the paragraph with the correct form of the word in brackets.
10. Feedback: project or distribute **worksheet 1 task 4 ANSWERS**.

Freer Practice

- **Task 5:** students write a paragraph about online retail using the language of compare & contrast.
- Feedback: project or distribute **task 5 ANSWERS**.

Homework

- Students select a topic & write a paragraph paying particular attention to the language of compare & contrast.
- Feedback options: i. Teachers - take in and mark. Use correction code: <https://www.academic-englishuk.com/error-correction>. ii. Students - peer feedback. Use **checklist** provided.

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Worksheet 1: Compare & Contrast

Lead in

- Select a question to discuss based on your current experience.
 - i. What are some of the similarities and differences between studying in your country and the UK?
 - ii. How does _____ differ?

Task 1

- Read the following paragraph. What is being compared?
- Highlight the comparison language.
- Make notes in the table showing the ideas being compared.

Management styles can be defined as methods, skills and abilities a manager uses within an organisation _____. The number of _____ is of continuous debate, but two of the most common are democratic and laissez-faire. Both a democratic _____ and _____ manager will often have a group of employees who have a much higher skillset than their manager, which _____ objectives _____. Another similarity is that both these management styles could bring about a potential conflict with so many different viewpoints. _____ will still _____ does not offer as much direction as a democratic manager, which could lead to less productive employees due to _____. Moreover, _____ time-consuming it becomes. Lastly, although employees generally feel more valued, and therefore more motivated, with either a _____ wish to be _____ a staff member becoming more and more resentful towards their manager.

Democratic	Laissez-faire

Language Review

- Read the following rules about how to form comparatives and superlatives.
- Are any of these new to you? Discuss with your partner.

Adjectives	Comparative	Superlative
1 syllable adjectives ending in -e: add -r / -st	<i>Nicer</i>	<i>The nicest</i>
1 syllable adjectives: add -er / -est	<i>Cleaner</i>	<i>The cleanest</i>
1 syllable adjectives with consonant-vowel- [redacted] add -er / -est	<i>Hotter</i> <i>Bigger</i>	[redacted] <i>The biggest</i>
1 & 2 syllable adjectives ending in -y: change 'y' for 'i' and add -er / -est	<i>Happier</i> [redacted]	<i>The happiest</i> [redacted]
2 syllable adjectives [redacted] or -less: add more or less / most or least	<i>More bored/boring</i> <i>More useful/useless</i>	<i>The most bored/boring</i> <i>The most useful/useless</i>
Other 2 syllable adjectives: add -er / -est	<i>Quieter</i> <i>Narrower</i>	<i>The quietest</i> <i>The narrowest</i>
3+ syllable adjectives: add more or less / most or least	[redacted]	<i>The</i> [redacted]
3+ syllable adjectives ending in -y: add more or [redacted] add -er / -est	<i>More unhappy OR</i> [redacted]	<i>The most unhappy OR</i> [redacted]
Compound adjectives: add more / less or most / least [redacted] / superlative equivalent	<i>More long-lasting</i> <i>OR longer-lasting</i>	[redacted] <i>OR</i> <i>best-known</i>
Adverbs	Comparative	Superlative
1 syllable adverbs ending in -e: add -r / -st	<i>Later</i>	[redacted]
1 syllable adverbs: add -er / -est	<i>Sooner</i>	<i>(The) soonest</i>
2 [redacted] least	<i>More often</i> <i>More interestingly</i>	([redacted]) <i>(The) most interestingly</i>
Exceptions/Variations	Comparative	Superlative
Good / Well [redacted] Early [redacted] Old	<i>Better</i> <i>Worse</i> <i>Earlier</i> [redacted] <i>Older/elder</i>	<i>The best / (the) best</i> <i>The worst / (the) worst</i> [redacted] <i>earliest</i> <i>The furthest / farthest</i> <i>The oldest / eldest</i>
Other important points		
In groups of 2, the comparative is used instead of the superlative to show difference.	<i>The interviewer liked both candidates, but</i> [redacted].	
Comparative adjectives and adverbs can be [redacted] 'slightly' etc.	<i>Much better than...</i> <i>Slightly less fun...</i> <i>Far more quickly than...</i>	
Superlative adjectives can be preceded by ordinal [redacted] 'my'	[redacted] <i>My closest...</i>	

Task 2

- What are the comparative and superlative forms of the following words?

Adjective/adverb	Comparative	Superlative
Optimistic	More optimistic	The most optimistic
Wise		
Large		
Handsome		
Easily		
Dry		

Language Review

- Read the following rules on how to structure comparatives and superlatives.

Structure	Examples
<p>As + adjective/adverb + as</p> <p>Used to show similarity between two things</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Used to show difference between two things</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>Mexico City.</p> <p>The number of people who _____ not as big as the number of people who live in the UK.</p>
<p>Comparative adjective/adverb + than</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>the number of French speakers in Canada.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>than anticipated.</p>
<p>Double comparatives</p> <p>Used to show change _____</p>	<p>The company is becoming less and less profitable as time goes on.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>getting higher and higher.</p>
<p>The + comparative adjective/adverb, the + _____</p> <p>Used to show how one thing can influence another</p>	<p>The more passionate the brand, the more successful it will be.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>worked.</p>

Task 3

- Rewrite the following sentences using the information in brackets.

1. The GDP of Switzerland is higher than the GDP of the UK. (not as)

2. Employees hoping [redacted] increasingly pessimistic. (and more)

3. If a boss is too friendly, [redacted]. (the... the...)

4. There [redacted] native speakers. (high)

5. Walmart [redacted]. (big)

6. The 2008 Financial [redacted] to the economy. (as)

7. The serious nature in [redacted] unexpected. (more)

8. If a brand is active [redacted]. (the... the...)

9. The company [redacted] before. (the)

10. The amount of [redacted]. (less)

Task 4

- Complete the paragraph about self-employment with the comparative or superlative form of the word in brackets.

Deciding whether to become self-employed is not an easy decision. The main advantage of working _____ income per hour will be _____ (high). However, the _____, be _____ (low). Moreover, being self-employed means taking responsibility for your tax, which can become _____ (time-consuming) if _____. _____ (efficient) way of handling your tax affairs in this case is to hire an _____ sick pay, _____ workplace pension are perks that do not often come with being self-employed, _____ (big) _____ balance. Working _____ (beneficially) to you, as well as being able to choose _____. Finally, being _____ to those who need or want to work _____ and _____ (independently, creatively).

Task 5

- Write a paragraph about online retail using the language of comparison and contrast.

Write your paragraph here...

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Homework

- **Select one of the following topics and write a short paragraph using the language of comparison and contrast.**
 - Exams versus coursework.
 -
 - Living in an urban or rural area.
 - .
 - Electric and petrol-powered cars.

Write your paragraph here...

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Peer feedback

- **Improve your own writing skills by analysing your partner's paragraph:**

Has your partner...	Yes / No / Not Sure
used a variety of structures to compare and contrast ideas?	
 similarities and differences?	
accurately used superlatives to show differences?	
 language to indicate change and/or influence?	

Worksheet 1: Compare & Contrast ANSWERS

Task 1

Management styles can be defined as methods, skills and abilities a manager uses within an organisation in order to accomplish its objectives. The number of different styles is of continuous debate, but two of the most common are democratic and laissez-faire. Both a democratic and laissez-faire manager encourage ideas and contributions from their staff, but a laissez-faire manager will often have a group of employees who have a much higher skillset than their manager, which means that they can be trusted with setting objectives more frequently. Another similarity is...

ALL ANSWERS ARE INCLUDED IN PAID VERSION...

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